

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 EB-08
COME-00 SP-02 STR-04 L-03 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 IO-13 /056 W
-----131309Z 053737 /46

P R 131238Z APR 77
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 6105
INFO USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 10682

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OECD, NATO, AORG
SUBJECT: GENERAL REVIEW OF CCG SALARIES

REFS: (A) OECD PARIS 9907, (B) USNATO 1982

1. OECD DEPUTY SECGEN WOOTTON HAS EXPRESSED TO US HIS
DISSATISFACTION AT RESISTANCE BY GOVERNMENTS IN CCG TO
SECGENS' PROPOSALS ON SALARY REVIEW (REF A) AND
GENERALLY AT QUOTE BAD ATMOSPHERE UNQUOTE IN CCG. RE A
AND L GRADES, WOOTTON INDICATED SECGENS FELT THAT GREAT
LOSS OF PURCHASING POWER IN RECENT YEARS AMONG PUBLIC
SECTOR EMPLOYEES IN ITALY CONSTITUTED THE QUOTE
EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNQUOTE WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY
DEROGATING ON AN AD HOC BASIS FROM THE CEILING
ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE 6 OF THE 133RD REPORT. (COMMENT:
IN LATER CONVERSATION INTERORGANIZATIONS SECTION
STATISTICIAN SAID REAL PROBLEM - BUT ONE WHICH THEY
COULD NOT VOICE IN CCG OR COUNCIL AS IT WOULD EMBARRASS
ITALIANS - WAS THAT ALTHOUGH OFFICIAL STATISTICS SHOWED
MARKED DECREASE IN ITALIAN PUBLIC SECTOR SALARIES IN
REAL TERMS, ITALIAN PUBLIC SERVANTS WERE IN FACT
RECEIVING PROMOTIONS AND ALLOWANCES THEY WOULD NOT OTHER
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WISE HAVE GOTTEN IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR PURCHASING
POWER. THUS HE CONSIDERED THAT INCLUSION OF ITALIAN
SALARIES IN CALCULATION OF A AND L GRADES SALARY WAS
GROSSLY UNFAIR. END COMMENT) RE B AND C GRADES, WOO-
TTON STATED THAT CALCULATIONS OF INTERORGANIZATIONS
SECTION MADE ON BASIS OF BEST LOCAL EMPLOYERS WERE
ENTIRELY ACCURATE AND SHOULD BE RESPECTED BY GOVERNMENT-

TS. HOWEVER, WOOTTON INDICATED INTERORGANIZATIONS SECTION STAFF WOULD BE MEETING WITH NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES TO EXPLAIN THESE CALCULATIONS BEFORE NEXT CCG MEETING IN BRUSSELS APRIL 20-21 - THOUGH THEY COULD NOT DISCLOSE NAMES OF EMPLOYERS SURVEYED AS DEMANDED BY BELGIAN DEL (REF A, PARA 5).

2. WOOTTON STATED URGENT CONCLUSION OF SALARY REVIEW WAS NEEDED TO AVERT POSSIBLE HARMFUL ACTIONS BY NATO AND OECD STAFF ASSOCIATIONS DURING UPCOMING HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS. WITH THIS IN MIND, WOOTTON SAID HE WOULD BE PLACING SECGENS PROPOSALS RE A AND L GRADES ON AGENDA OF APRIL 19 OECD COUNCIL SESSION WITH HOPE THAT COUNCIL COULD TAKE ACTION ON IT AT APRIL 26 SESSION. IN ADDITION SECGENS WOULD PROPOSE THAT CCG HOLD SECOND MEETING IN APRIL (PRESUMABLY APRIL 27-28) TO NAIL DOWN PROPOSALS FOR B AND C GRADES. IN CONCLUDING WOOTTON ASKED FOR US SUPPORT IN COUNCIL AND CCG. HE ADDED THAT HE WAS ALSO CONTACTING SEVERAL, MAINLY NON-EC DELS (HE COMPLAINED OF EC COUNTRIES' QUOTE DOUBLE STANDARD UNQUOTE OF SUPPORTING HIGHER SALARIES FOR EC EMPLOYEES THAN FOR OECD EMPLOYEES) TO ENLIST THEIR SUPPORT. FINALLY, WITH A VIEW TO THE LONGER-TERM, WOOTTON REPORTED THAT THE SECGENS WOULD SOON BE PRESENTING PROPOSALS FOR THE REFORM OF THE CCG.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION SHARES FEELING THAT SALARY REVIEW IS AN URGENT MATTER WHICH IF NOT CONCLUDED SOON COULD GENERATE CONSIDERABLE DISSATISFACTION AMONG STAFF. ACCORDINGLY REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ON

A AND L GRADES ISSUE BY APRIL 26 AT LATEST AND PREFERABLY BY APRIL 19. ON B AND C GRADES, WE AGREE WITH US NATO THAT DESIRE OF SOME DELEGATIONS TO MEET WITH INTERORGANIZATIONS SECTION TO REVIEW STATISTICS (REF B) IS WITHIN MEMBER STATES' PREROGATIVES. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO HASTEN RESOLUTION OF ISSUE, REQUEST DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TO SUPPORT SECOND MEETING OF CCG IN APRIL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OECDP10682
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770128-0178
Format: TEL
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770462/aaaacbiji.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 635535a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OECD PARIS 9907
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2821272
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL REVIEW OF CCG SALARIES
TAGS: AORG, OECD, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/635535a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009